

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the creation of the Office of Small Business Assistance
3 Advisory Task Force.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 481, Government Code, is
6 amended by adding Section 481.00681 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 481.00681. OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE
8 ADVISORY TASK FORCE. (a) In this section:

9 (1) "Small business" means a business that employs at
10 least 25 but not more than 250 individuals.

11 (2) "Task force" means the Office of Small Business
12 Assistance Advisory Task Force.

13 (b) The Office of Small Business Assistance shall establish
14 the task force.

15 (c) The task force is composed of seven members appointed as
16 follows:

17 (1) three members appointed by the governor;

18 (2) two members appointed by the speaker of the house
19 of representatives; and

20 (3) two members appointed by the lieutenant governor.

21 (d) A task force member serves a two-year term. A task force
22 member may be reappointed for additional terms.

23 (e) Task force members serve without compensation but are
24 entitled to reimbursement for reasonable and necessary expenses

1 incurred in the discharge of their duties.

2 (f) The task force shall meet as often as necessary but
3 shall meet at least once a year.

4 (g) The task force shall:

5 (1) advise and assist the Office of Small Business
6 Assistance with its duties under Section 481.0068(b) to the extent
7 that they relate to small businesses;

8 (2) advise and assist the governor, the lieutenant
9 governor, and the speaker of the house of representatives with
10 issues that relate to small businesses; and

11 (3) provide information in plain language to the
12 public on issues related to small businesses, including:

13 (A) environmental permitting and compliance;

14 (B) local regulations;

15 (C) construction permitting;

16 (D) the duties of the comptroller to the extent
17 that the duties relate to small businesses; and

18 (E) the formation of business entities.

19 (h) Not later than January 1 of each odd-numbered year, the
20 task force shall submit to the legislature a report that:

21 (1) describes issues related to small businesses; and

22 (2) proposes legislation to assist small businesses.

23 SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date
24 of this Act, the governor, the lieutenant governor, and the speaker
25 of the house of representatives shall appoint the members of the
26 Office of Small Business Assistance Advisory Task Force as required
27 by Section 481.00681, Government Code, as added by this Act.

1 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
3 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
4 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
5 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 3714 was passed by the House on May 8, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 133, Nays 14, 2 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 3714 on May 23, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 134, Nays 6, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 3714 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 21, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 27, Nays 4.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor